

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

MAILED

MAR 24 2004

PAT. & T.M. OFFICE
BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

Ex parte SANJIV G. TEWANI,
MARK W. LONG, MARK O. BODIE
and
JAMES P. HAMBERG

Application No. 09/997,745

ORDER RETURNING TO EXAMINER

This application was received at the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences on March 8, 2004. A review of the application has revealed that the application is not ready for docketing as an appeal. Accordingly, the application is herewith returned to the examiner. The matters requiring attention prior to docketing are identified below.

Section 1208 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP) (8th Ed., Rev. 1, Feb. 2003) states:

On the examiner's answer, below the primary examiner's signature, the word "Conferees:" should be included, followed by the typed or printed names of the other two appeal conference participants. These two

appeal conference participants must place their initials next to their name. This will make the record clear that an appeal conference has been held. [Emphasis added.]

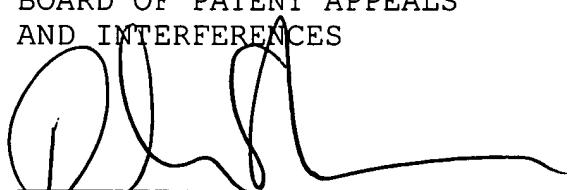
The Examiner's Answer mailed May 13, 2003 (Paper No. 8) does not comply with the above requirement.

Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that the application is returned to the Examiner for taking corrective action regarding the appeals conference, and for such further action as may be appropriate.

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

By:



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